

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 L-03 H-01 VO-03

/023 W

-----170414Z 072205 /72L-61

P R 170314Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6097

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 2405

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, RP, US, (WIDEMAN, BERNARD)

SUBJECT: GOP EXCLUSION OF BERNARD WIDEMAN

REF: MANILA 2392

1. AMBASSADOR SPOKE TO IMMIGRATION AND DEPARTATION COMMISSIONER REYES EVENING 16 FEBRUARY CONCERNING WIDEMAN CASE. ALTHOUGH REYES CAREFULLY PHRASED HIS STATEMENTS TO ASSERT THAT HE WAS ACTING ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY, IT WAS CLEAR THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED CASE WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS AND HAD RECEIVED HIS MARCHING ORDERS.

2. REYES SAID HE INTENDED TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR WIDEMAN ON FRIDAY, 18 FEBRUARY. PRINCIPAL CHARGE AGAINST WIDEMAN WOULD BE LIBELOUS FALSIFICATION IN HIS REPORTING. PRINCIPAL COMPLAINANT WOULD BE MARCOS CRONY BOBBY BENEDICTO AND SUBSTANCE OF CHARGE WOULD CONCERN WIDEMAN STORY (APPARENTLY FOR FAR EAST ECONOMIC REVIEW) THAT BENDICTO HAD RECEIVED KICKBACKS IN SUGAR TRANSACTIONS.

3. REYES SAID WIDEMAN WOULD BE PERMITTED PRESENT WITNESSES, HAVE LAWYER, AND OTHERWISE BE ASSURED OF DUE PROCESS. HE SEEMED SUPREMELY CONFIDENT THAT CASE AGAINST WIDEMAN
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WAS AIRTIGHT AND THAT DEPORTATION WAS FORGONE CONCLUSION.

4. EMBASSY TALKED WITH WIDEMAN MORNING 17 FEBRUARY TO CONVEY THIS INFORMATION. WIDEMAN SAID HE HAD JUST RECEIVED LETTER FROM REYES INVITING HIM TO HEARING. HE WAS ATTEMPTING ENGAGE EX-SENATOR JOVITO SALONGA AS HIS ATTORNEY. CONSULAR OFFICER WILL ATTEND PROCEEDINGS AND

EMBASSY WILL REPORT IN DETAIL.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION
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Sent Date: 17-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: 77 MANILA 2392
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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TAGS: CASC, PFOR, RP, US, (WIDEMAN, BERNARD)
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